

“Ambassador Cousin is Keynote Speaker at the 2011 Latin American Food Bank and Food Security Conference in Colombia” May 26, 2011

Ambassador Ertharin Cousin served as keynote speaker at the Latin American Food Bank and Food Security Conference in Bogota, Colombia on May 26. Among other important topics, in her address she discussed her work as U.S. government representative to the UN Food and Agriculture agencies in Rome—the organizations that are at the heart of international efforts to promote sustainable nutrition-smart agricultural development. She also addressed the current challenges to food security such as food price volatility, staggering natural disasters, climate change and political unrest. In the face of these challenges, she noted that the global community has taken proactive measures to promote sound policies that encourage agricultural growth, re-invest in agricultural research, facilitate reliable trade flows and mitigate price volatility by increasing sharing of information on food stocks, and generally abstaining from export bans.

While in Colombia, Ambassador Cousin also had the opportunity to visit Bogota’s Food Bank.